

PALESTINE PERFINS

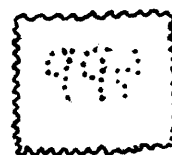
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As far as can be ascertained - without making any serious attempt at research - Palestine perforated postage stamps were first used by the Anglo-Palestine Company, Limited, in 1926. This company is now named the "Bank Leumi Le-Israel". Later, the Keren Kayemeth Le-Israel also had stamps of the pictorial issue perforated.



The stamps of the London II issue (Waterlow Printings) were current when the Anglo-Palestine Co., Ltd., first introduced Perfins. We have seen these ranging in denomination from 4 mil to 2 pia, but the range may have started with the lower values and may have extended to the higher ones. The "A.P.C." Perfins have been found on the pictorial issue, ranging from 3 mil to 20 mil, but once again a larger range of values may have been treated similarly.

The "bpp" perforations of the "K.K.L." have been found on 2 mil and 7 mil values of the Pictorials on thin paper - first printings. The "bpp" ("K.K.L.") perforations read from right to left, in true Hebrew fashion, and there are no periods after the letters. Such "K.K.L." Perfins appear to be quite scarce, as they are not seen too often. The Bank Leumi has not been approached for more information, for it occurred to us that at least their publicity agents do not command great philatelic knowledge. We well remember the advertisements which were published in the "HOLY LAND PHILATELIST", #17, of March 1956 and others. They there illustrate a cover from the A.P.C. Ltd., Jaffa, franked with three stamps of the London II issue, claiming that "this is a letter with stamps of the first British Mandatory issues". Long may they prosper and employ the services of philatelists for their publicity!!



The "A.P.C." perforations are interesting. They are always applied diagonally across the stamp, properly reading from upper left to lower right. However, they may be found in any position. We have seen three of the four possible "positive" positions, and all four of the "reverse" positions, as well as doubles. We are quite frustrated at not having been able to find a "positive" position reading up from lower left to upper right corner, although there is little doubt but that it must exist.

It is not known what size head - i.e. how many dies - was on the machine used, but if it was a five die machine, undoubtedly the sheets of stamps were folded in quarters and then fed to the puncher. This would, of course, produce all four possible positions, and if the operator turned the sheet over before folding, then all four positions would appear in the reverse.

Further varieties may exist. Missing holes have been found, particularly blunting the apex of the letter "A", i.e. the one hole at the top of the letter being missing. This is not too unusual, for as these machines wear, pins break, and missing holes are to be expected.

Our thanks to Mr. R. Bowman, secretary of the "Security Endorsement & Perfin Society of G.R.", and to Mr. David Dorfman who provided much of the information and illustrations for this article which was adapted from one which appeared in the "BAPIP BULLETIN", #54, of January 1957.



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